

Si ptores-o



Statues of Abraham Lincoln

Andrew O'Connor
Springfield, Illinois

Excerpts from newspapers and other
sources

From the files of the
Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection

THE PRESIDENTS PLACET

Springfield - State House

Lincoln is represented by Andrew O'Conner in the act of addressing his friends and neighbors from the rear of the train as he leaves the old Wabash passenger station in Springfield on his way to Washington and the president's chair. The statue is located before the Illinois State Capitol at Springfield and was presented to the city October 5, 1918.

The figure stands sad but composed, with feet slightly apart; the eyes are downcast - one can almost hear him speak the immortal words which are

carved on a huge granite slab directly behind the statue:

" I now leave, not knowing when or whether ever I may return, with a task before me greater than that which rested upon Washington. Without the assistance of that Divine Being who ever attended him I cannot succeed. With that assistance I cannot fail... To His care commending you, as I hope in your prayers you will commend me, I bid you an affectionate farewell."

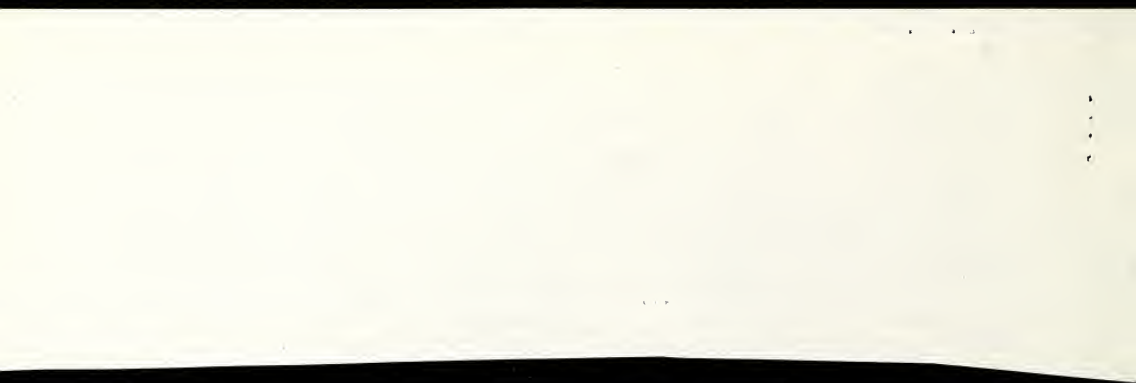




Photo by
Capital Engraving Co.
1907

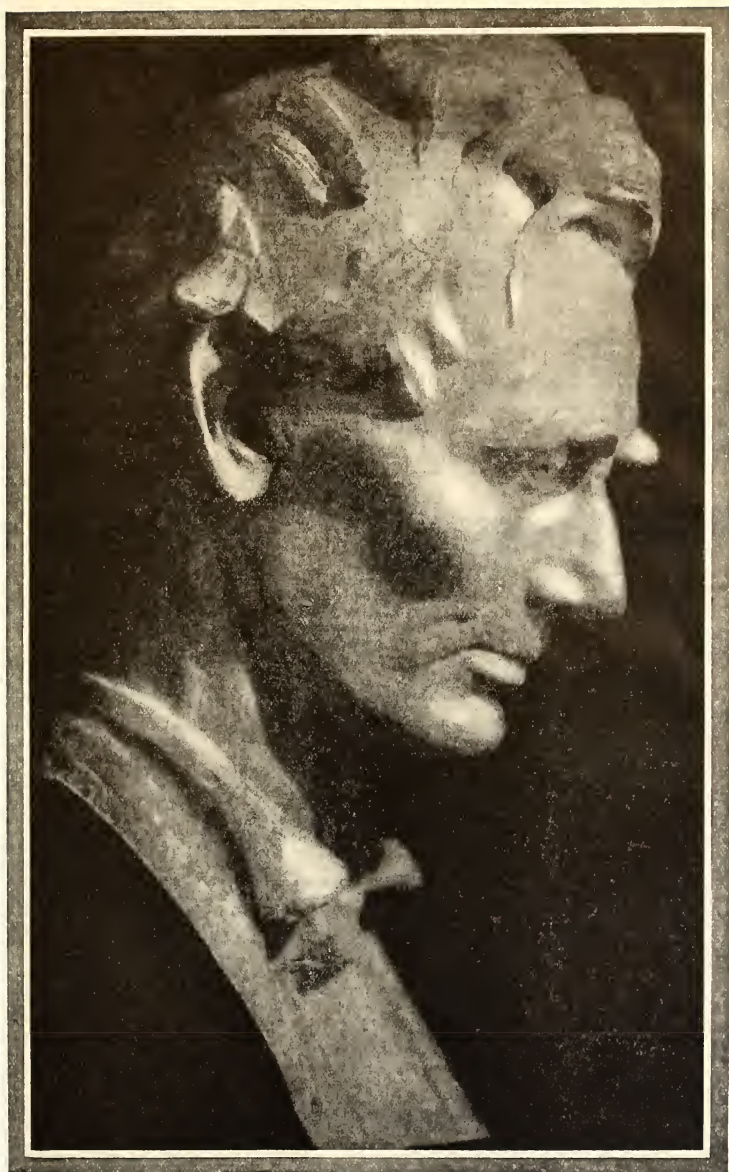
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O' Connor, Springfield, Ill



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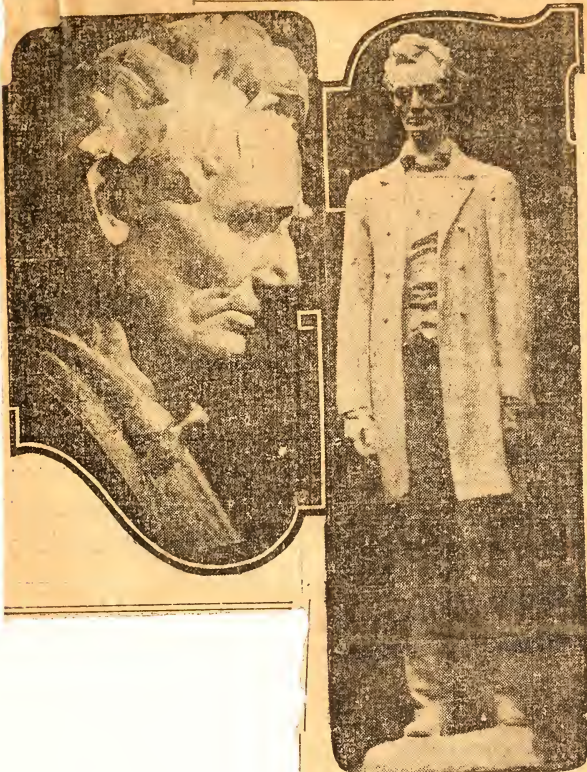


THE AMERICAN

From the statue of Abraham Lincoln, by Andrew O'Connor, at Springfield, Ill.



LINCOLN STATUE FOR STATE CENTENNIAL



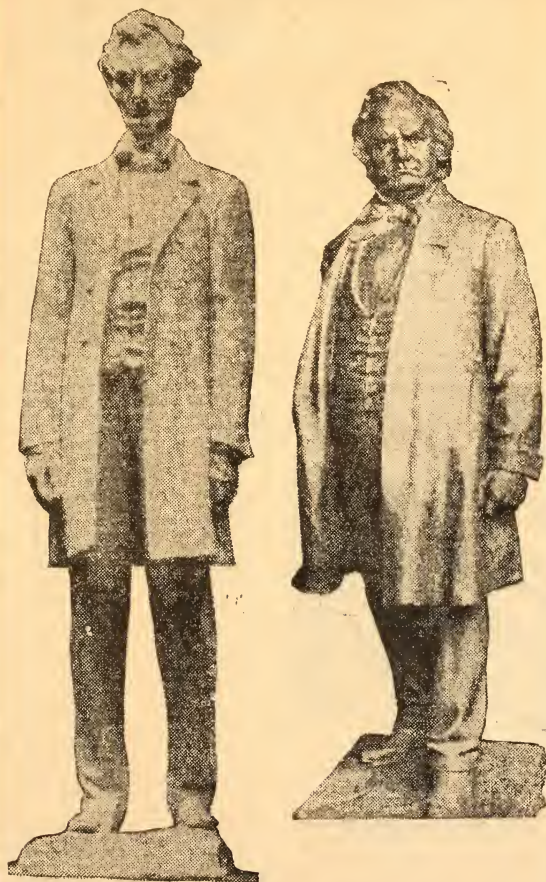
LIKENESS OF THE EMANCIPATOR
BEING CAST IN BRONZE FROM
ANDREW O'CONNOR'S MODEL, TO
BE ERECTED AT SPRINGFIELD,
ILL.

[Photographs furnished by the Illinois centennial commission.]

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., Feb. 2.—As one of the memorials of the centennial anniversary of the admission of the state into the union, Illinois will erect a statue of Abraham Lincoln on the state capitol grounds. The plaster cast of the statue has been completed and the bronze is being cast from it in Boston. Andrew O'Connor of Worcester, Mass., is the sculptor and he has been working on the statue for three years. The legislature appropriated \$50,000 for the purpose and O'Connor was selected by the state art commission. The statue will be unveiled on April 18 with elaborate ceremonies. This will be one of the principal features of the centennial celebration at the state capital.

In New York, where a plaster cast of the O'Connor statue is now on exhibition in the Seligman galleries, the highest praise is being bestowed upon the work by artists and sculptors, and it is being contrasted with the Barnard statue, against which so much unfavorable criticism has been made by Robert T. Lincoln and others.

Lincoln And Douglas Statues Are Centennial Year Gifts



Centennial Year will bring to Springfield two important and substantial memorials in the statues of Abraham Lincoln, by Andrew O'Connor, and Stephen A. Douglas, by Gilbert P. Riswold. The plaster cast of both statues has been completed and the statues are now being cast in bronze.

The Lincoln statue will occupy a pedestal which already has been built for it, facing down Capitol avenue from the east entrance of the State Capitol. The Douglas statue will be located south of the Lincoln statue and slightly to the rear, occupying a position near the center of the south-east portion of the State Capitol grounds.

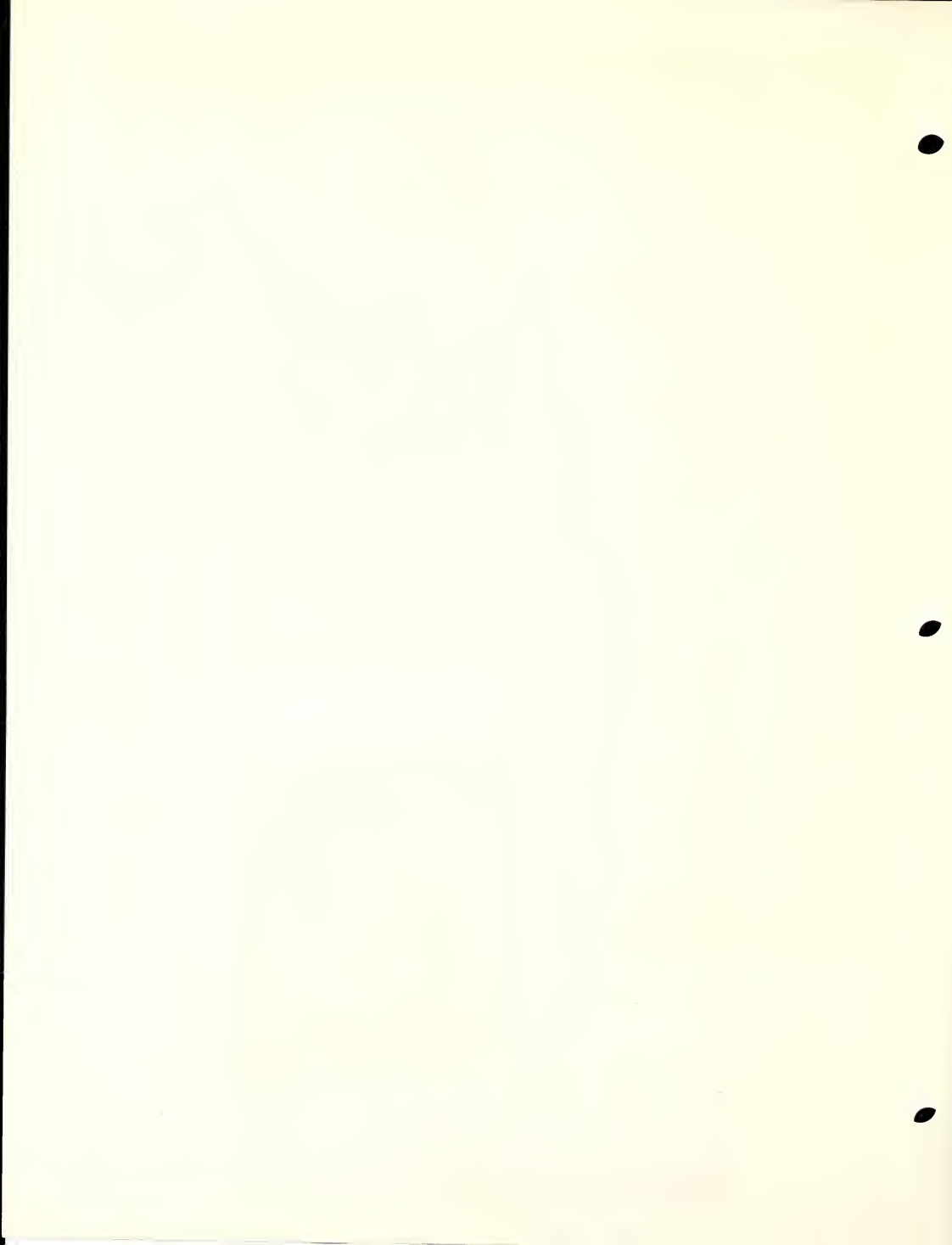
The Lincoln statue is made at a cost of \$50,000, and the Douglas cost \$25,000. Both statues were provided for by appropriations of the General Assembly.

The Lincoln statue is being praised all over the country. It was shown recently in New York in the plaster, and attracted the attention of artists. Since

then, pictures of it have been published in newspapers in all sections of the country, and it is being very favorably received. The favorite picture is the head which appears on the cover section of this issue.

The Douglas statue is said to be the best representation of the "Little Giant" ever made.

It has been found impossible to unveil the statues on April 13 as was originally intended, owing to the congestion of freight which has prevented the shipment of granite, and the unveiling probably will take place the first week in October. Instead of the unveiling on April 13, there will be an elaborate program participated in by the State Historical Society, which will hold its Centennial session in the city at that time, and the Illinois Centennial Commission. Speakers of national reputation have been engaged for the occasion, and there will be other interesting features.



EARLY IN 1918, perhaps on Lincoln's birthday, there will be unveiled on the Capitol Grounds at Springfield, a statute of Abraham Lincoln, designed by Andrew O'Connor. This statute will cost completed, over fifty thousand dollars, and represents Lincoln as he was known in Springfield before his home city and State gave him to the nation and to the world. All the arrangements for the erection of this statue have been made under the directions of the State Art Commission. The artists who have seen the model pronounce it equal, if not superior, to any statue of Lincoln that has ever been made. It is highly appropriate that the greatest statue of our greatest American, should be erected in his home city, hallowed by his memory, and where he lies buried. The statue of Stephen A. Douglas, by Gilbert P. Riswold, likewise prepared under the auspices of the State Art Commission, will be erected and unveiled early next spring—very likely, on Douglas' birthday, the 23d of April. Provision has also been made for the erection of a Centennial Memorial Building, the corner stone of which will be laid next year. This building will be a permanent memorial, which shall through years to come, emphasize the fact that Illinois did not forget to commemorate her Centennial anniversary.

518 State register 243-21-
THE LINCOLN STATUE

The state house and the state house grounds are very beautiful, particularly at this time when the lawns are carpeted with the richest shade of green and the shrubs, the trees and the flowers are blossoming into life.

The picture, as viewed from the principal, or Capitol avenue approach, would be improved if the huge Lincoln statue with its high background of stone were given a more dignified and appropriate station on the grounds, leaving a clear sweep of vision to the massive east entrance steps.

The present arrangement is unsymmetrical. This statue which was dedicated October 5, 1918, when Hon. Josephus Daniels, then secretary of the navy; Lord Charnwood of England, and Robert Douglas, grandson of Stephen A. Douglas, were here, would have been more appropriately placed as the central figure of a recess. In other words, it would look much more symmetrical if, for instance, it were made the center of a group of statues between the state capitol and the centennial building with an approach of appropriate design and adornment. This would be more in keeping with the sanctity of the Lincoln name and figure and would remove the statue back a pace from the rush of traffic and from such close proximity to a filling station.

The artistic original designer of the state capitol building sensed the beauty of a wide, unbroken approach to the massive steps from which ponderous columns rise and which are now lost to view because of the Lincoln statue with its lofty screen of stone and the foliage behind it.



10-20-50

Centennial Statue of Lincoln

The above is a representation of Andrew O'Connor's statue of Lincoln, which will be placed in the state house grounds between the two walks leading up to the east entrance of the building.

The statue will be unveiled on April 18 with impressive ceremonies. It is called "Lincoln of the Farewell Address," as it represents Abraham Lincoln as he appeared when he stood on the platform of the rear of the Wabash train which left this city of Feb. 11, 1861, bearing him to Washington to be inaugurated president of the United States.

The statue will be of bronze, ten feet, six inches in height, and will be placed on a base of granite. The illustration above is of the plaster cast made by the sculptor, Andrew O'Connor of Worcester, Mass.

A statue of United States Senator Stephen A. Douglass, the candidate of the democratic party of the north against Lincoln for president in 1860, will be placed in the capitol grounds some distance to the south of that of

Edward Y. Rice, B. S. Edwards and John McClelland.

When this room was formally dedicated, as the Circuit Court room, Feb. 21, 1876, Judge Charles S. Zane was the presiding judge. John A. McClelland delivered the principal address and remarks were made by Judge B. S. Edwards and William H. Herndon. Since that day our judges have been worthy successors of the pioneer judges. I will name a few of them:

Judge Jane, William, R. Welch, H. M. Vanderveer, Jesse J. Phillips, Robert B. Shirley, Owen P. Thompson, James A. Creighton, Frank W. Burton, Norman L. Jones, and lastly, the able and distinguished man who today presides over this meeting and this court, Hon. E. S. Smith.

The attorneys at this bar: what power, what eloquence, what wit, humor, sarcasm, invective, and yet, what learning have they displayed.

The great criminal cases drew the crowds in our little town like the theatre! How many here can remember James C. Robinson with his homely eloquence? I do not mention the very earliest lawyers who were here before this room was the circuit court room, and only a few of the middle period. James C. Robinson, Anthony L. Knapp, Stephen T. Logan, Milton Hay, John T. Stuart, James H. Matheny, James C. and William H. Conkling, John E. Rosette, William H. Herndon, N. M. Broadwell, W. E. Coby, C. C. Brown, and may I be permitted to say that John M. Palmer practiced at this bar for

more than thirty years and left a deep impress upon the judges and lawyers of the Court, and that John Mayo Palmer was known as the scholarly lawyer, the student at the bar. Lloyd P. Hamilton, William E. Shutt and Alfred Orendorff should be mentioned and those who are today leaders at the bar. Clinton L. Conkling, James W. Patton, James M. Graham, Elford Wilson, James H. Matheny, Stuart Brown, and many, many more should be mentioned.

Your Honor, if the walls of this room had ears to hear and a tongue to speak, they would tell a tale that would run the whole gamut of human experience and emotions. They would tell of love and hate, of crime and virtue, of self-seeking and of justice, and today this room is re-dedicated to the principle which has animated it in the past, that here the poorest may find equality and justice before the law, at the hands of their servants whom they have placed in positions of honor and trust, under this government of the people and by the people.

In addition to the portraits of Lincoln, Douglas and Grant, the three statesmen that Illinois owes so much to for constructive history, there are paintings of Truth, Justice, Mercy and Peace, on the west wall. In a circular panel in the ceiling there is a reproduction of the State Capitol and the Court House. The paintings are in accord with the ideas of the State Centennial commission and are the work of Ernest Benche a portrait painter.

The committee of supervisors in charge of the program were: Samuel J. Willett, Bert F. Wietles and Fred Amrhein, the committee on court house and grounds.

Ill. State Register



A New Statue of Lincoln.

By Jane A. Stewart.

THE new Lincoln statue which was unveiled on October 5 as part of the celebration of the Illinois centennial is declared to be one of the "most satisfying" statues of the great emancipator which has yet been created. The work is by Andrew O'Connor, of Worcester, Mass., who has represented the immortal Lincoln as he appeared when he left Springfield, Ill., on February 11, 1861, to go to Washington for his inauguration as President of the United States. Lincoln had no beard then. And the work shows him in the full power of his mature manhood, simple, sympathetic, idealistic, reverent, with an expression of strength and sweetness combined.

The statue is in bronze, eleven feet high. It stands on the east side of the handsome State capitol of Illinois at Springfield, where Lincoln lived for more than a quarter of a century. The composition represents Lincoln before he had borne the heavy burdens and sorrows of the Civil War, which broke out a short time after his inauguration. He is aptly represented in the act of addressing his neighbors and friends from the rear of the train as he was leaving the old Wabash passenger-station in Springfield, saying: "I now leave, not knowing when or whether ever I may return, with a task before me greater than that which rested upon Washington. Without the assistance of that Divine Being who ever attended him I cannot succeed. With that assistance I cannot fail. . . . To His care commending you, as I hope in your prayers you will commend me, I bid you an affectionate farewell."

It is regarded rightly as most appropriate that this notable statue of Lincoln should be unveiled and dedicated at a time when the free nations of the world are struggling to preserve that democracy and liberty for which he gave his life.

PROPOSES LINCOLN STATUE

Magill Offers Bill for Erecting Figure on Capitol Grounds. 1913

[BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS.]

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., March 26.—A magnificent bronze statue of Abraham Lincoln to be erected on the capitol grounds and dedicated at the time of the state's centennial celebration in 1918, is the conception of Senator H. S. Magill of Princeton. Senator Magill has discussed the project with members of the general assembly, state officials, professors of the University of Illinois, members of the state historical society, and other prominent men and women of the state.

His plan has met with such universal and enthusiastic indorsement that he will introduce a bill the coming week providing for preliminary arrangements for the work.

Senator Magill will specify in his bill that the matter of procuring designs and making preliminary plans for the memorial be placed in the hands of the state art commission.

Stew

Lincoln and Douglas Statues.

THE bronze statue of Abraham Lincoln, by Andrew O'Connor of Worcester, Massachusetts, was delivered in Springfield on July 16 and has been set up in preparation for the dedication, which will take place on October 5. The statue of Stephen A. Douglas, by Gilbert P. Riswold, also has been delivered and the foundation for it is being erected.

The Lincoln statue stands on an elaborate pedestal which has been erected at the Capitol Avenue entrance of the State Capitol. The background of the figure is a huge slab of light granite, upon the back of which is carved Lincoln's farewell address to the citizens of Springfield as he took the train for Washington. The Department of Public Works and Buildings, the State Art Commission, and Secretary of State Louis L. Emmerson agreed that the Riswold statue of Douglas should be erected on the left hand and to the north of the Lincoln statue.

The statue of Menard, which stands on this spot, will be moved to a position south of the Lincoln statue for the present. Eventually it is the intention to erect a statue of Ulysses S. Grant on this spot and possibly to locate the Menard statue in the grounds of the new Centennial Memorial building, which is to be constructed south of the Capitol.

It is the hope of the Centennial Commission that President Wilson will be here to attend the unveiling of the statues of Lincoln and Douglas and the laying of the corner stone of the Centennial building in October. The President has given assurances that he will come unless some unexpected international complication keeps him in Washington.

CELEBRATION AT OLD SALEM.

The Old Salem Lincoln League has completed all its plans for the celebration on New Salem Hill, near Petersburg, on August 16. The League has located the sites of the principal buildings in the town made famous by the residence there of Lincoln in his early manhood, and logs have been cut for the reconstruction of most of the buildings. The reconstructed buildings will include the Rutledge Inn, where Lincoln boarded and where he met Ann Rutledge; the Lincoln & Berry store, and a large number of the other houses closely associated with Lincoln's day. The pageant representing life at New Salem as it was in Lincoln's day, will be given with these buildings and the reconstructed road through the village as a background.

tion, Lincoln was the incarnation of a patience born of power which was invincible and unconquerable. How much these men influenced the life of the illustrious statesman of whom I am to speak is a field that invites speculation and throws light upon the career of Stephen A. Douglas.

All youths of ambition are hero worshipers. To the youthful Douglas, early orphaned and apprenticed to the trade of cabinetmaker, the commanding and picturesque figure of Old Hickory was the perfection of the ideal American. Jackson's career as a soldier inspired his patriotism. His resolution to brook no opposition to his well-conceived plans at New Orleans by arresting, imprisoning and banishing a Federal judge challenged the admiration of the youth of the Green Mountain state and his defiance of power by his veto of the charter of the National Bank so stirred young Douglas that he ever regarded Jackson as the embodiment of political wisdom and sound statesmanship.

During the twenty-five years that Mr. Douglas was in public life—and he held almost every office in the gift of the people—he followed the political paths blazed by Jackson, and was never so confident of the correctness of his position as when he felt he was taking the course that Jackson would have followed. * * *

The lesson of this hour which we draw from the life of Douglas is far removed from the forum of politics and the debates of questions which stirred the people in the fifties. They are valuable only in illustrating his convictions and consistency and the ability he displayed in defending them and winning the approval of those who heard or read his able addresses. It seems a thousand years since people grew heated over these differences. Now that the whole world is in the throes of a great war to decide whether the world can endure half democratic and half republican, in the clear retrospect we can appraise the heights of devotion to country in the example which Douglas set to his countrymen then and now. He had devoted his life to the settlement of radical differences over a question which could not be composed by an adjustment or compromise. Clay had postponed the conclusion. Douglas in his Nebraska bill and squatter sovereignty believed he had found a solution. Clay did not live to see that his remedy was a postponement. Douglas in sorrow saw the disunion which he had patriotically sought to avert.

But when war came, in spite of his blood-sweating attempts to avoid a clash between brothers, he had not a moment of hesitation as to the course he would pursue. His state called its sons to preserve the Union. With all the powers he could command he united his voice with that of Lincoln in calling the people, though it was a painful duty to one who gave twenty years to averting the conflict, to take up arms to maintain undivided the great republic upon whose solidarity he believed depended the hope of free government in the western hemisphere. As senator from this great commonwealth, he stood behind Lincoln when he delivered his inaugural address. He stood behind him physically, and behind him with full weight of his ability, his counsel, his eloquence and the leadership of a great party which had given him 1,500,000 votes and which in Grant and Logan and McClellan and Hancock contributed generals of distinction and from its rank and file poured into the regiments men who fought as valiantly for the Union as did the men of different political faith. It was a seemingly insignificant incident which cheered all who were hoping war could be averted. When, as Lincoln was introduced, as he looked about for a place to deposit his hat, Senator Douglas stepped forward and took it and held it. That act had a world of meaning as the future course of Douglas evidenced. One blast upon his bugle horn was worth a million men.

When a people are at war, partisanship if it be based upon love of country burgesons into patriotism. Mr. Douglas had been a partisan of partisans. The man to whom the reins of government had been entrusted had been his political foe. In the moment of the peril of the perpetuity of the Union, Mr. Douglas forgot his personal differences, his considerations, forgot any resentment or disappointments, forgot everything but the supreme fact that the united republic he loved was threatened with separation and all which that involved to American greatness. In that hour he made full dedication of himself and his powers, rallied the forces of defence of a united republic that should stretch from lakes to gulf and from ocean to ocean.

And he fell as truly in his country's cause, speaking and counselling for united support to Mr. Lincoln, as the men who gave their lives on the field of battle, under the leadership of Grant and Logan. He died with the prayer in his heart, so eloquently uttered by Webster, with whom he was kindred spirit, "when my eyes shall be turned to behold, for the last time, the sun of heaven, may I not see him shining in the broken dishonored fragment of a once glorious Union; or states discovered, discordant. . . . Let their last feeble and lingering glance rather behold the gorgeous ensign of the republic, now known and honored, throughout the earth, still full high advanced, its arms and its trophies streaming in their original lustre, not a stripe erased or polluted, not a single star obscured, bearing for its motto . . . Spread all over in characters of living light, blazing on all its ample folds, as they float over the sea and the land, and in every American heart, Liberty and Union, now and forever, one and inseparable."

Robert D. Douglas, a grandson of Stephen A. Douglas, was present, and his little daughter, Virginia A. Douglas placed a wreath at the foot of the Douglas statue as the concluding act of the dedicatory exercises.

Lincoln Statue Dedicated.

At 2:30 in the afternoon the statue of Abraham Lincoln, by Andrew O'Connor, erected immediately in front of the State Capitol, was dedicated with impressive services, the principal address being given by Lord Charnwood of England, statesman, author and a life-long student of Lincoln. Lord Charnwood was introduced by Governor Lowden, who spoke briefly as follows:

Illinois can not well recount her past without paying tribute to her Lincoln. Great as have been her achievements, the greatest thing of all in her hundred closing years was her gift of Lincoln to the Nation and the world.

In the last few years no greater tribute has been paid to his life than has been paid by the great English publicist and author Lord Charnwood. He has come to the seas to be with us to-day and join with the younger branch of the English-speaking race in paying tribute to this matchless man, and I want to remind Lord Charnwood that his is not the first contribution to the history of America from which we have profited.

One hundred and forty years ago, when we had some slight difference with the English crown, it was to English authors, sir, that we went for argument to combat your govern-



ment, and we quoted from Lord Chatham and Edmund Burke in support of our position at that time, and when the war ended we had won, not only independence for ourselves, but the democracy of England had won an equal victory. At the surrender of Yorktown England learned a new colonial



O'Connor's Lincoln.

policy, and that great empire, sir, which spans the globe to-day, and keeps the flag of liberty floating around the world had its birth in this little difference which our Nation had with you at that time.

And so to-day there is nothing more fitting than that the Cross of St. George and the Stars and Stripes of the United States should float side by side on a score of battle fields for liberty, humanity and civilization.

I recall that when Mr. Lincoln, the priceless heritage of our first hundred years, our comfort in the present, and our inspiration for the future, pronounced the deathless Gettysburg speech, we, his countrymen, then were deaf to its charm, and deaf to its greatness. It remained for England to discover that upon that battlefield, the most perfect bit of English language that had sprung from the heart and brain of an Anglo-Saxon anywhere were those lines which Lincoln then produced. As it was England who discovered that gem, so it is fitting to-day on this hundredth anniversary of our statehood that Lord Charnwood should join with us in the dedication of this statue which you behold. Lord Charnwood, it gives me very great pleasure sir, to present you to this audience of typical Illinoisans, and therefore typical Americans.

The address of Lord Charnwood was particularly impressive, coming as an expression of the high regard in which Abraham Lincoln is held by the English-speaking people of the world. He spoke in part as follows:

Mr. Chairman, Governor Lowden, Mr. Daniels, Ladies and Gentlemen:

In the first place I have a message to give you, which is from my countrymen, not in England only, but in all those self-governing communities from Newfoundland to New Zealand, from South Africa to Canada, which are linked with England in this war. It is a message, I would even say, from not a few men among those strange nations of the East, in India, which even to-day under the guardianship of England and her colonies, are making their first steps in the path of self-government. I have no right whatever to speak also for the French, our masters, and yours, in so many ways, but I am going to speak for them.

On behalf of all these, the self-governing communities of the world outside of this Union, I beg to offer the most heartfelt congratulations and birthday good-wishes to the great Commonwealth of Illinois, older than some of those communities, and younger, again, it may be by some years, than England, which now completes those hundred years of vigorous life, which have won it so high a place among the free commonwealths of the world.

Ladies and Gentlemen: Among the great dead who have spoken the English language, more and more as the years go on, two men stand out, eclipsing all others, not only by the loftiness of their genius, but by the appeal which they make to the common heart of men. One of them was William Shakespeare, and the other—by the way, a great student of Shakespeare—was Abraham Lincoln.

In this terrible struggle in which all civilization is involved, to what statesmen of the past can we turn in comparison for lessons of wise statesmanship, effectual and profound? Why, it is a singular fact that there is no statesman, however able, whose example is so often quoted in England to-day as that of Abraham Lincoln. But there is more than that. Men are fighting, men are dying to-day, for ideals of democracy, of freedom, of equality. It is well, when our sons are dying for that, that we should sometimes consider a little deeply what these words mean. How can we govern ourselves, when some of us, God knows, are not wise? In what sense are men equal, ought they to be equal, when in certain obvious ways nature herself has fashioned them so unequal? Where shall we look for the answer to these paradoxes which sometimes baffle us? I speak as a student. There is no statesman, no poet, no philosopher, whose thoughts on these deep matters, are at once so profound and far-reaching, and put in language so transparently simple, as Abraham Lincoln. And perhaps the deepest philosophy that was ever uttered on these momentous questions of democracy was uttered upon Illinois platforms in those wonderful debates which Lincoln held upon your soil with the great Douglas, antagonist and when the great crisis came, his friend, who was so worthily commemorated this morning.

But there is something more than that. Beyond his statesmanship, beyond the profundity of his thought, beyond the poetry of his language, there was something interwoven with his genius, which brings it singularly near to the hearts of men of all conditions and characters and kinds, wherever their lot in life may be cast.

I might well, I think, ask first this question: How comes it that not only I, brought up as an English boy, but untold thousands of Englishmen, I can safely say, though we knew little of America, and understood nothing at all about the issues of your Civil War, nevertheless, quite early in boyhood fell under the spell of Lincoln's name?

I think in part it is for this reason: there is a type of manhood—it has, of course, its corresponding type of womanhood—but there is a type of manhood which at his mother's

brought about many social and economic changes. We shall never be just what we were before the war. In compensation for the sacrifices that have been made we should be far better. Whether or not we advance will depend on how we meet our new duties and responsibilities.

Illinois, that has contributed so largely in the past to the welfare of our Nation and the freedom of the world, should take a position of leadership among the commonwealths, even as our country must assume leadership among the nations of the world. We must prepare for the broader life that will come after the war, when our boys come home with enlarged vision and intensified devotion to the principles of freedom and democracy for which they have fought.

December 3d, the beginning of the new century, should be particularly observed by the schools, churches and other organizations of the State, and in all these observances there should be the forward look.

The O'Connor Lincoln

On the Capitol Grounds at Springfield, Illinois

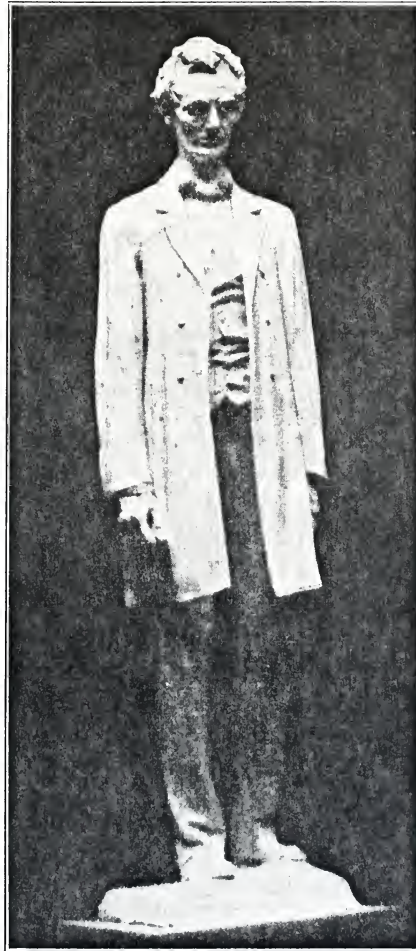
By JAMES HART.

(Reprinted from the *Bloomington Bulletin*.)

Lincoln himself is truly present here,
Brought back in bronze, in full reality,
The man his neighbors often used to see,
When on these very streets he would appear
Walking along so thoughtful, year by year,
Pausing to chat at corners jovially
With townfolk; and what rare simplicity,
And yet in all the land he had no peer.

His head is bent, in grave and saddened mien,
'Twas thus he looked the day he went away,
And spoke those words of farewell from his heart;
Leaving his home, and each familiar scene,
He prayed to God, who could both go and stay—
Now he returns in living, lasting Art.

on which
church,
in
+



"THE FAREWELL ADDRESS"

This statue, by Andrew O'Connor, stands before the Illinois State Capitol at Springfield, and suggests the appearance of the President-elect when he bade farewell to his fellow townspeople in 1861.

SISTER AUGUST 25 1929



SPRINGFIELD BOYS IN BUSINESS! Here are twelve lads of the local Postal Telegraph service, standing proudly in their new uniforms at the base of the Lincoln monument at the east entrance of the state capitol. From left to right they are Henry Decroix, Roy Glikerson, Gerald Reynolds, Raymond Stevens, Bernard Dickerson, Frank Reel, John Clarke, Wm. Brennan, Harry Higgins, William Wright, Theodore Weisenhart and Ivan Ware.

(Richards and Deem Photo.)



Producers of Educational and Industrial Motion Pictures

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ILLUSTRATIVE PHOTOGRAPHY



AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY
ARCHITECTURAL PHOTOGRAPHY

April 13, 1932

Lincoln Historical Research Foundation
Attention: E. Henneford,
Fort Wayne, Indiana

Gentlemen:

We have photographed the O'Connor statue of Abraham Lincoln, standing at the entrance to the State Capitol, for you, keeping your instructions in mind, and will have the print in the mail for you today. We were delayed a little due to light conditions.

We trust that this photograph will meet with your approval, and wish to thank you very much for your order.

Yours very truly,

JJS/P

HERBERT GEORG STUDIO



Awarded Gold Medal Architectural Class, P. A. of A. International Convention, Milwaukee, 1930



ILLINOIS SHRINE O'CONNOR'S ART

Farewell at Springfield
Preserved in Bronze
Outside Capitol

DONE AT PAXTON

Maurice F. Reidy, Friend
Of Sculptor, Has Mold
From Life Mask

By ROBERT B. ATWOOD
Telegram Staff Reporter

SEVENTY-THREE years ago today Abraham Lincoln, a prairie lawyer who had been elected President of the United States, stood in a hotel stage along the muddy streets of Springfield, Ill. Without ceremony he was going to the railroad station, bound for the White House.

It was 8 o'clock the morning of Feb. 11, 1861. Rain and sleet sharpened the cutting edge of a raw wind and made the weather disagreeable. At the station were a few friends, buttoned against the elements, who gathered to bid farewell to their neighbor.

Lincoln, whose clean-shaven face showed the ridges and furrows of worry and disappointment, mounted the rear platform of the train. He was pale with emotion and obviously was under a great strain. It has been said that he had a premonition that he was never again to set foot on Springfield ground and that he was leaving forever the people he knew so well.

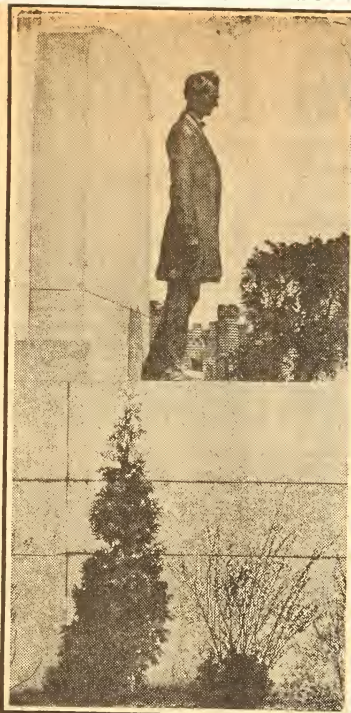
"Farewell Address"

The President-elect had prepared no speech for delivery at this time, but circumstances made one appropriate. His long figure tilted forward and his head bowed slightly as he looked down at his friends. His frock coat hung open. His arms were limp at his sides. With his features showing a serious appreciation of the task before him, Lincoln spoke.

It was an extemporaneous address. The people folded their umbrellas and raised their faces to listen. In a few moments Lincoln made the remarks, beautifully simple and sad, which have been preserved as his immortal "Farewell Address."

That farewell was chosen by a former Worcester sculptor, Andrew O'Connor, as worthy of preservation in bronze. For three years he worked in his modest studio at Paxton and produced a statue which now stands in the dignified approach to the Illinois State capitol.

Probably no other artist has succeeded in blending so well the essential attributes of Lincoln. The figure stands 10 feet, four inches tall on a majestic pedestal set off by a series of wide steps and platforms at different levels. There are no exaggerations of dress. The head has been acclaimed as most remarkable, the face reflecting all the human sympathy, vision and reverence which was expressed in



SIDE VIEW OF "LINCOLN OF THE FAREWELL ADDRESS."

Rankin he secured a first hand account of the farewell address. Mr. Rankin, author of "Personal Recollections of Abraham Lincoln," was one of those who braved the rain to bid Lincoln goodbye.

This information gave the sculptor an insight into the circumstances of the address and served to augment the guidance he was to have from pictures and the mold from the life mask. The late Leonard Volk, a sculptor of Lincoln's day, went to Springfield shortly after the prairie lawyer had been nominated for President. He made the life mask which preserved in detail Lincoln's features as they were only a few months before leaving for the White House.

Thus equipped, Mr. O'Connor was ready to work. First he molded in clay a small head of Lincoln. It was about 18 inches tall. From this he made a plaster cast which stood at his side while he perfected the larger head which was to go on the statue.

Beautiful Hands

Mr. O'Connor next modelled the body in clay, concerting his best effort on the hands. The sculptor contends that Lincoln's hands are beautiful in their massive strength and humbleness.

When the work was done, Lincoln had been reproduced in the simple pose familiar to those among whom he lived as a lawyer and publicist. Tall, angular and of humble simplicity, here is revealed with impelling impressiveness the

the "Farewell Address." Te 2 column Feb 11, 1934

Mecca for Throng

Citizens of Springfield respect the work of the Worcester sculptor as a masterpiece and most of the 200,000 visitors who go to Springfield each year to see the Lincoln shrines spend a part of their time admiring the figure.

Mr. O'Connor was commissioned by the state of Illinois to make the statue. It was dedicated in 1918 as a part of the centennial celebrations of Illinois' statehood.

Although Worcester is inseparably linked with this tribute to the Emancipator, there is little evidence today proving this association. Mr. O'Connor is a resident of Paris, France. The studio in which he made the statue has long since been destroyed by fire. The plaster cast model of Lincoln's head, made by Mr. O'Connor as an aide in perfecting the head on the statue, was destroyed by the artist himself.

Reidy Possession

Maurice F. Reidy, of this city, a personal friend of the sculptor, possesses the last vestige of tangible evidence of Worcester's connection with this work of art. Mr. O'Connor presented him with a clay mold made from the life mask of Lincoln and with some 60 pictures. The mold and the pictures were used by Mr. O'Connor in the work.

The mold was made by the artist at the National Museum, Washington, D. C. It was done so perfectly that it shows even the texture of Lincoln's skin besides the moles, wrinkles and other features which are so well known.

Mr. Reidy recalls the hours he spent with Mr. O'Connor in the Paxton studio, during which he saw the statue take shape. It is no easy task to make clay reflect words, feeling and character and it was only through superior skill and patience that Mr. O'Connor succeeded. Mr. Reidy said that to the layman the clay model of the head was a finished product months before the sculptor pronounced it so.

Ardent Admirer

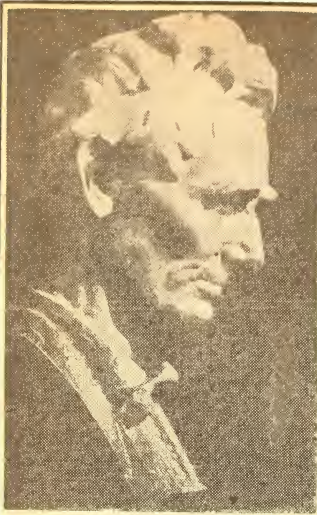
Mr. O'Connor always has been an ardent admirer of the martyred President. Before starting his work, he read many biographies of Lincoln and went to Springfield to visit the scene of the farewell address. He also studied the proposed setting for the statue and planned the landscaping for the approach to the capitol building.

While in Lincoln's home town, Mr. O'Connor interviewed residents who remembered Lincoln as a neighbor. From the late Henry B.

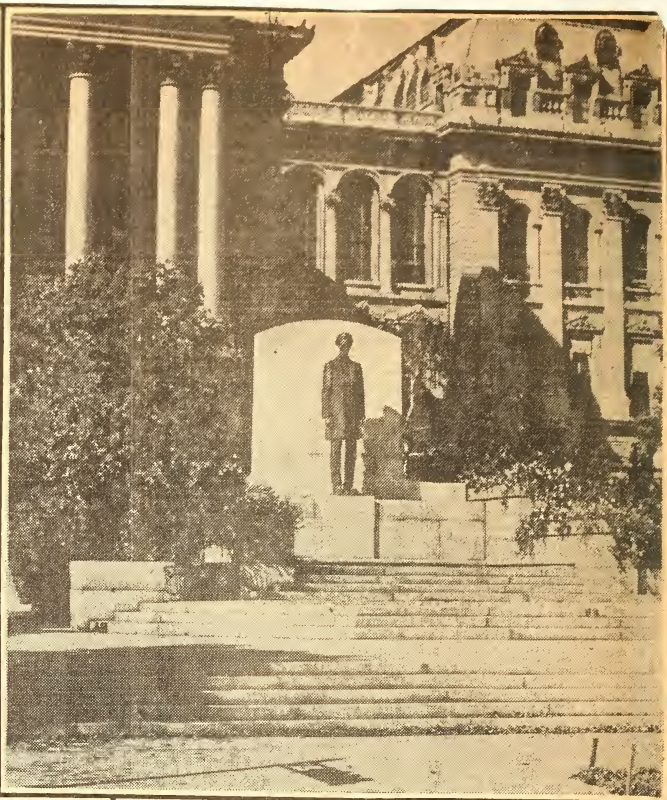
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to 3rd column

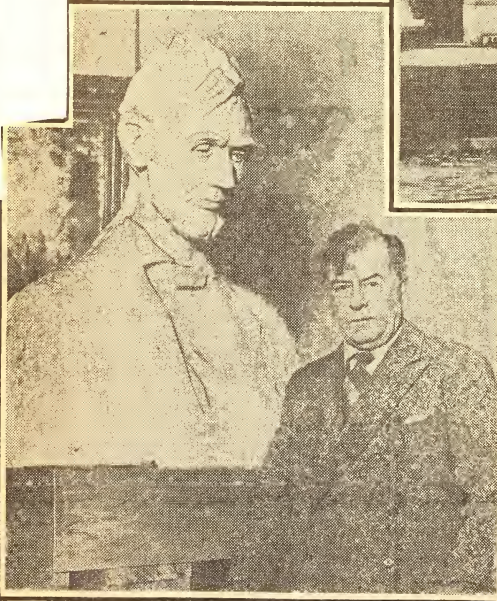
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HEAD OF O'CONNOR'S AT
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS.



GENERAL VIEW OF
O'CONNOR'S SPRINGFIELD,
ILLINOIS, STATUE.



ANDREW O'CONNOR, WORCESTER SCULPTOR,
AND ANOTHER OF HIS LINCOLNS.



MOLD MADE FROM LIFE
MASK OF LINCOLN,
OWNED BY MAURICE F. REIDY.

lofty spiritual qualities which made Lincoln the incarnation of the highest ideals of American democracy.

"Whatever I know or have learned is in this work," Mr. O'Connor said.

Enhanced by Setting
The setting of the statue ac-

centuates the beauty and historical authenticity of Mr. O'Connor's work. The sculptor went to great lengths to add charm to the piece by the surroundings. Even the first wide flight of five steps from the sidewalk onto the capitol grounds is a part of his design. Above these steps comes an expanse of 15 feet to the second rise, which consists

of three steps. These lead to a platform of cobble stone, 10 feet wide. Then another rise of four steps to a 12 foot floor of tapestry brick at the foot of the block on which the figure stands.

Behind the figure of Lincoln is a massive slab which may represent the rear of the railroad coach. It also serves to bring the sculptor's

work into clear relief. On it is inscribed the "Farewell Address."

In Father's Workshop

Mr. O'Connor was born in Worcester in 1874. His early youth was spent in the workshops of his father, who also was a sculptor, and at the age of 16 years he left home. He had developed a good technique under his father's direction.

At the age of 19, the young O'Connor had worked in Boston, New York, Chicago and London. This was during the most important period of his technical education. By a lucky chance, he had the opportunity of visiting John Singer Sargent at the latter's workshop and saw this renowned painter at work on the art which is now in the Boston library.

O'Connor spent three years studying in London during which time, under the direction of Sargent, he studied Greek art and the paintings at the National Gallery. Since then he has done many outstanding statuary. Numerous among his works are statues of the Emancipator in London and Providence, R. I., besides the one at Springfield.

November 1, 1935

Herbert Georg Studio
224 1/2 S. 5th Street
Springfield, Illinois

Gentlemen:

We often have requests in our museum for the pictures of the various Lincoln statues in the United States.

About three years ago we purchased from you a picture of O'Connor's statue of Lincoln at Springfield, Illinois.

We have an excellent photographic department in our organization, and we are wondering if you would give us permission to copy the pictures which you sent us.

Trusting that this will meet with your approval, we remain,

Yours very truly,

LINCOLN NATIONAL LIFE FOUNDATION

By

THE
LIBRARY OF THE
MUSEUM OF
COMPARATIVE ZOOLOGY
AT HARVARD UNIVERSITY
CAMBRIDGE, MASS.
1880

HERBERT GEORG STUDIO

224 1/2 SOUTH FIFTH STREET
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS



MOTION PICTURES
SOUND SILENT &
NATURAL COLOR

Gold Medal, Architectural Class, P. A. of A. International

Convention, Milwaukee

MAIN 2781

December 27, 1935

Lincoln National Life Foundation
Attention: Mr. M. A. Cook,
Fort Wayne, Indiana

Dear Mr. Cook:

Referring to your request of Nov. 1st
to copy our photograph of O'Connor's statue of Lincoln,
we are pleased to advise that you have Mr. Georg's
permission to do this.

We are sorry about the delay in answer-
ing your letter, but it arrived at a time when Mr.
Georg was in Texas and the reply was deferred until
his return.

With best wishes for the New Year, we
are

Sincerely yours,

HERBERT GEORG STUDIO

JJS:P

By 

Photography

• ARCHITECTURAL • AERIAL • INDUSTRIAL • ADVERTISING • CATALOG •



LINCOLN - THE PRESIDENT-ELECT

SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS

SCULPTOR - ANDREW O'CONNOR



LINCOLN SHRINE
BOY SCOUT
PILGRIMAGE
FEBRUARY 12

SPONSORED BY
THE LINCOLN
NATIONAL LIFE
FOUNDATION



The Old Print Shop Portfolio
Vol XXI Feb. 1962 No 6

PORTFOLIO FOR FEBRUARY, 1962

125



6. ABRAHAM LINCOLN — Bronze by ANDREW O'CONNOR — height 22".
\$1200.00.

This portrait bust from the collection of Gertrude Vanderbilt Whitney was exhibited in New York in 1916. It forms part of the heroic statue of Mr. Lincoln which stands today before the state capitol of Illinois in Springfield.



'Ol' Abe' Is Losing Footing

The famed statue of Abraham Lincoln at the Capitol Avenue entrance to the State Capitol grounds has been shaken from its moorings, the State Journal learned Wednesday.

However, the danger of the statue toppling over and smashing itself to pieces does not appear to be imminent.

BUT TO PREVENT such a tragedy from occurring in the future, Gov. Otto Kerner Wednesday released \$1,200 to cover the cost of re-anchoring the statue—sort of putting Ole Abe solidly back on his feet again.

William H. Chamberlain, who as secretary of state is in charge of such things, said the loosening of Lincoln's footing is something that has been occurring for a long time and didn't just all of a sudden happen.

He said the thousands of tourists who have visited the statue over the years are chiefly responsible for loosening it up.

So, if one of these days you are driving by on Capitol Avenue or 2nd Street and see some men digging around the Lincoln statue, don't worry, they won't be trying to steal it — they'll just be getting Old Abe tight again.

Springfield, Illinois
December, 1972



AP Photo

Icy Abe

A bronze statue of Abraham Lincoln stands glazed over with ice in front of the state capitol in Springfield, Ill., Tuesday. Freezing rain in Springfield caused the phone and power companies to remove ice-laden branches from sagging power lines.

Abe Lincoln Statue Gets New Finish

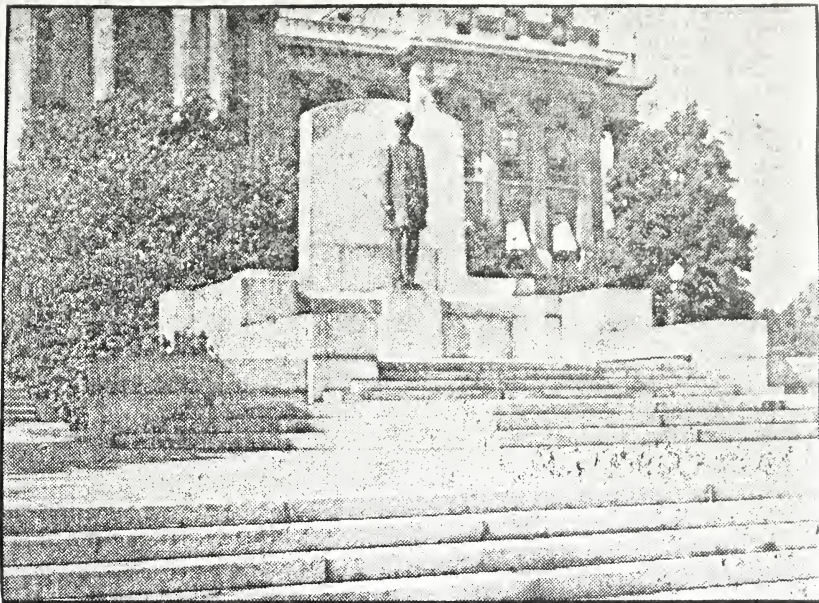
Springfield, Ill. —(P)— "You might as well put lipstick on the Mona Lisa," a Springfield attorney commented to a state official Thursday after inspecting the shiny finish applied to the statue of Abraham Lincoln.

The gleam on the Lincoln figure, standing in front of the state capitol, was criticized by attorney Charles Chapin in a letter to Secretary of State Charles F. Carpentier who had ordered the statue "cleaned."

"I don't know about these things," Carpentier said, "I was a little startled when I saw it the first time. But it looks pretty good to me now."

Workmen now are giving a similar polishing operation on a nearby statue of Stephen A. Douglas.

"Lincoln of the Farewell Address"



"Lincoln of the Farewell Address" is placed in a superb setting before the capitol building. Note the massive simplicity of the pedestal and its approaches typifying the majestic strength of character of the unassuming Emancipator.

Strawn, Frank Moxon, Ross Deppe, Art Gimple, W. A. Wallace, A. Monetti and Gilbert Large.

Chenery Urges Springfield Citizens Learn Background of O'Connor Lincoln Statue

By WILLIAM DODD CHENERY

THE FLOWER CITY! Appropriate, indeed, the early appellation, the descriptive name, given to Springfield when it grew into a village in the long ago. More than a century ago a vigorous young hunter, John Kelley, ascended the hill now called "Chinquapin" and looked over the bloom-spangled prairies, the meandering brooks, the shaded vales of the Sangamo land. Returning to the Virginia home of his father, the enthusiastic description of the earthly paradise he had discovered induced his family, accompanied by neighboring families, to follow his leadership westward, thus planting the first settlement that became Springfield. One of the most picturesque parts of the vicinity was a series of groves, bordering a creek, running from the hill on which stands the present executive mansion, across Fourth and Jackson streets corner, where a rustic bridge spanned the rapid water, and through the block on which stands the state arsenal.

After the lapse of ten decades portions of that scene of enchantment,

Lincoln, while the height of the boxes marred the several elevations of the granite.

Of all the many statues of the emancipator none other has been so severely, and unjustly, criticized. The unfortunate feature regarding lack of appreciation of the supreme art displayed in that statue is that it is entirely due to not understanding the event it portrays. Almost every day the writer passes the statue, and when visitors are gazing upon it there seems a curious lack of interest. In every case, where the history of the statue, and the sentiment it depicts, is explained the spectators exclaim over its lucid and impressive meaning, and gratefully thank the narrator of its story. This entire article is intended as a plea that local citizens, escorting strangers to the Lincoln story spots in the city, relate the incident connected with this statue, the one most vitally close to every local patriot.

In 1918 was celebrated the centennial of Illinois as a state in the union. Among the permanent things contributed by that celebration is the

as he looked down into faces beaming with love and confidence. Human sympathy, reverence and vision radiate from the forceful countenance.

Many are the versions of that last speech, all bearing the same general interpretations. That engraven upon the slab of granite that stands behind the statue is the one most generally quoted. Every phrase contains some well-expressed, concise thought.

Immortal Eulogy of Springfield

The second sentence of the address carries the highest praise ever bestowed upon any city. Well might the authorities inscribe at the portals of the city the twelve words that stamp it forever as a refuge unsurpassed for all worthy youths. When signs are made for the highways leading to the city, why not change them to read this:

**The Inspiring City
SPRINGFIELD**

"To this place and the kindness of these people I owe everything."

A. Lincoln

Eulogy sublime! To no other city has so glorious a character been ascribed. What an incentive to those seeking new homes, if they read at the highway boundary of the city that its inhabitants are those who extend a helping hand, who render honor to whom honor is due, who remember the good they hear and forget the ill.

Possibly the majority of those who pass the capitol grounds do not realize that even the first wide flight of five steps is part of Mr. O'Connor's design for the pedestal. To grasp the full majesty of the pedestal one should pause on the opposite side of

the street, at the corner of the supreme court building, and note that fifty foot expanse of granite steps. The first elevation, above the sidewalk, extends fifteen feet, to the second rise of three steps. These lead to a cobble stone paved platform ten feet wide, then another rise of four steps to a twelve foot floor of tapestry brick, at the foot of the block on which stands the statue, which is ten feet and four inches tall.

The massive slab behind the statue may typify the rear of the railroad coach, and also serves the purpose of bringing the statue into clear relief. Beyond the statue the walk divides into two strips of twenty-four foot width each, divided by a grassy strip thirty-six feet wide leading all the way to the steps of the portico of the capitol.

The dedication ceremonial occurred at 2:30 o'clock Saturday afternoon, October 5, 1918, with Lord Charnwood of England, making the principal address, from which one paragraph: "Beyond his statesmanship, beyond the profundity of his thought, beyond the poetry of his language, there was something interwoven with his genius which brings him singularly near to the hearts of men."

It was originally intended to hold the ceremonial on the 100th anniversary of the inauguration of the first governor of Illinois, Shadrach Bond, which occurred Oct. 6, 1818, but was advanced one day as the 6th in 1918 fell on Sunday.

The spring following the dedication, on Flag Day, June 14, 1918, a Norwegian hard maple tree was planted on the grassy slope behind the statue.

formed by nature, have been transformed by the handiwork of man into equally beautiful, though totally different, pictures.

While secretary of state, of Illinois, Hon. Louis Lincoln Emmerson began beautification of the surroundings of the heart of the great state, the grounds of the capitol building. The improvements were speedy and amazing. From untidy dandelion overgrown wastes there soon was developed the velvet green of well-kept lawns and the framework of dense masses of oak sapplings and shrubbery to hide outside incongruous buildings. That precedent of embellishment of the capitol and executive mansion grounds is accentuated by devotion to the preservation of their beauty by the present secretary of state, Hon. Edward J. Hughes, and the efficient superintendent of the state capitol and its grounds, Mr. C. F. Malloy. Unceasing efforts by competent gardeners have made this spot one of the attractions for visiting tourists; local citizens go out of their way, to and fro from business, to feast their eyes upon the ribbons of purple and rose-pink petunias that border the paths and the vistas through clumps of well-placed shrubs.

No one innovation on the part of Secretary Hughes has won greater appreciation on the part of Lincoln devotees than the removal of the flower boxes that had detracted from the scientifically planned, massive proportions of the pedestal of the statue representing

Lincoln of the Farewell Address

The softening effect of the drooping vines of verbenas or petunias were in contradiction to the evident design of the sculptor to have that pedestal illustrate the simple, unadorned strength of character of

Capitol avenue in the capitol grounds. The celebration committee, headed by Sen. Hugh S. Magill, instructed the noted sculptor, Andrew O'Connor, of Worcester, Massachusetts, to depict Mr. Lincoln during the delivery of his farewell address on the morning of his departure from Springfield on February 11, 1861, for Washington.

The hour was early, 8 o'clock, but despite a cold, drizzling rain and sleet, a numerous group of friends had assembled at the station of the Great Western railway (now the Wabash) at Tenth and Monroe streets to say goodbye to the friend so recently elevated to the highest honor in the power of America to bestow, that of the presidency. An hour or so earlier, in the office of the hotel where the last few days of the Lincoln family in Springfield were spent, Mr. Lincoln had with his own hands "georded" the trunks and packing boxes for shipment to Washington, brushing aside the porters assembled by the hotel proprietor for that task, saying he wanted them to reach the white house safely. Then came the drive to the station, and the escorting of Mrs. Lincoln and the children into the car.

The citizens pressed closer around the rear end of the train, and Mr. Lincoln, coming out on the back platform, removed his hat and stood looking down upon the friends whom it was destined he would never again greet in Springfield. That moment was the one chosen by the sculptor to perpetuate in bronze.

Simplicity of nature, quiet dignity and strength, ineffable tenderness, the sadness of forebodings of dire events to follow—all these show in the solemn face and the forward-leaning poise of the athletic frame

THE FAMILY ALBUM



(Photograph courtesy of the Illinois State Historical Library)

DEDICATION OF LINCOLN STATUE DURING STATE CENTENNIAL—

One of the interesting events scheduled in connection with the celebration of the Illinois State Centennial was the dedication of the Lincoln statue which stands in front of the State Capitol on Second street, the date being October 5, 1918. As many citizens will recall, there was quite an elaborate program of events incident to this celebration of the one hundredth anniversary of the admission of Illinois to statehood. All state and other public buildings were specially decorated and the Centennial Week attracted thousands of visitors to Springfield from over the state.

LINCOLN AND AN ADMIRER.



—Copyright, Clinton H. Montgomery.

When Norbert Montgomery was 3½ years old, he stopped briefly before the statue of Lincoln at Springfield, Ill., and pondered in a boyish way on the great President. This photograph of Norbert looking up at Lincoln now hangs in the Great Emancipator's old office in Springfield and the boy also sent a copy to Herbert Hoover, who expressed his thanks with a letter and an autographed portrait. Norbert, who is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Clinton H. Montgomery, 6127 Mission drive, is now 9 years old.



'THE LINCOLN monument at the intersection of Capitol and Second-sts, Springfield, Ill.

The Two Statues.

The Lincoln statue looks down Capitol Avenue from the east entrance to the Statehouse. It stands on a large base approached by granite steps and as a background there is a huge granite slab on the back of which is carved Lincoln's Farewell Address to Springfield as he departed for Washington.

The Douglas statue stands on a smaller base at the left of the Lincoln statue and just in front of the space formerly occupied by the Menard group. This group has been moved to the southeast corner of the Capitol grounds and to the right of the Lincoln statue, thus balancing the arrangement. The Douglas statue is full of vigor and appeals to the public as well as to the art critics.

The two sculptors selected for these important works have records of achievements in art. Mr. O'Connor was born June 7, 1874. He was a pupil of his father and worked hard at his art from his boyhood up. Among the principal works he has executed may be mentioned the central porch of St. Bartholomew's church in New York, eleven marble statues in the Essex County Court House at Newark, N. J., a bas-relief for the library of J. P. Morgan in New York, the General Liscum monument in Arlington, N. J., the General Thomas monument at Tarrytown, N. Y., the bronze statue of General Lawton at Indianapolis, the marble statue of General Lew Wallace at the Capitol in Washington, the monument of Governor John A. Johnson at St. Paul, the original design in bronze of St. Bartholomew's doors, a marble portrait of Edward Tuck at the Luxembourg Museum. Mr. O'Connor was awarded the second medal of the Paris Salon in 1906. This is the highest award given a foreigner at the Salon and he is the second American sculptor to receive it. Recently a collection of his works was exhibited in a New York gallery and he received much praise for the excellence of all of the work exhibited.

Gilbert P. Riswold was born in Sioux Falls, S. D., January 23, 1881. He graduated from the Art Institute of Chicago and has a studio in the Fine Arts Building, Chicago. He competed for the prize of \$200,000 for the Mormon monument, Salt Lake City, which has not yet been awarded because of war conditions. He is a student of Lorado Taft and has made quite a reputation by his early work. At present he is at work on a statue of Captain Krevit, an Australian. His statue of Stephen A. Douglas is considered one of his best works.

